

Ocqueoc-Bearinger Fire Board

Meeting Minutes

Thursday, 4 May 2017

Attending Board Members

Beverly Rossetto, Treasurer
Archie Patterson, Secretary
Irvin Dedow, Director
Jeff Foster, Chairman
Jerry Counterman, Director

Other Attendees

Anna Beach, EMS Coordinator
Gary Yaklin, Fire Chief
Charles Merchant, Assistant Fire Chief

- Jeff Foster called the meeting to order at 7:05 pm followed by the pledge of allegiance.
- Carol Rabineau, Disaster Program Manager, American Red Cross of Northern Michigan gave a presentation on using the Fire Hall as an emergency shelter. She covered the paperwork required to register the hall as a shelter, the number of volunteers required, physical requirements and the shift work required. Volunteers need to be registered with the Red Cross (redcross.org) as a volunteer. The Red Cross assumes all liability when the Hall is used as a shelter and there is a phone app to find the nearest shelter. She also mentioned their smoke alarms program where the Red Cross volunteers install alarms in homes for free.
- Also introduced was Ben Osterland the new DNR Fire Boss for the region. He explained how they function and where the staff comes from to man the equipment at their facility near the Onaway State Park.
- Minutes from the 2 March 2017 meeting were reviewed and corrections noted. Irvin Dedow made a motion to approve the minutes as corrected. Seconded by Beverly Rossetto. Motion Carried.

Treasurer's Report:

- Treasurer's report was reviewed. The 1 March starting funds was \$78,080.76, with expenses of \$39,283.95, and interest income of \$13.44 leaving a total funds in our accounts of \$38,283.95. April interest income of \$9.24, and expenses of \$1,670.58 left funds in our accounts of \$37,148.91. The equipment fund started January at \$35,131 with two months interest of \$26.43 for an ending balance of \$35,157.43.

Fire Chief's Report:

- In the two month period since our last meeting there were two fire runs. One was a vehicle roll over and the other was a CO incident.
- We have the new extrication equipment in. Plan on a demonstration at the HBCA Garage Sale.
- The County Clerk asked for volunteer's cell phone numbers for an alternate 911 communications method.

Assistant Fire Chief's Report:

- Presque Isle Township's Fire Department will take the old extrication equipment and would agree to provide mutual support.
- At the Chief's meeting it was noted the new local certified Fire Fighting training instructors provided training in Alpena. However it was not good training. The Chiefs are proposing a challenge exam to gain training certification for those that attended the training.
- Jerry Counterman expressed concern that we do not have the minimum number of training volunteers to be a certified fire department. The Assistant Fire Chief said we are.
- Jerry Counterman expressed concern about liability in using our new untrained volunteers. The Assistant Fire Chief assured the board that we ensure the safety and proper deployment of the new volunteers.

Medical Coordinator's Report

- For the two month period there were five medical runs of which Rogers City Area Ambulance Services Authority responded to one call and Onaway to four. Bearinger had four calls and Ocqueoc had one. Four of the five were transported to the hospital.
- A combination adult and child CPR-AED has been ordered.

Old Business:

- None

New Business:

- Alpena News will publish an insert covering Home Town Heroes. Our department volunteers will be featured next month. After a discussion about placing a small ad in the supplement a motion by Irvin Dedow to do so was seconded by Jerry Counterman. Motion Carried.

Public Comment

- Ken Pohovic expressed concern that things that needed to be done in the department were not be taken care of. The board stated the issue should be address during a members meeting.

Board Comment

- Archie Patterson mention he had the insurance forms from Cheboygan Life Support that for \$60 will cover all your ambulance expenses for a year. The forms were provided to the public.

Motion to adjourn by Irvin Dedow seconded by Jerry Counterman. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:17 pm.

Respectfully submitted

Archie Patterson

Archie Jay Patterson II
Secretary,
Ocqueoc Bearinger Fire Board

Next meeting: 6 July 2017 at 7:00 pm.